

DEC 13 1924 /

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✓ THE FATAL MISTAKE /

Photoplay in five reels /

Directed by Scott Dunlap

Author of the photoplay (under section 62)
Perfection Pictures, Inc. of U.S. /

STORY OF THE PLAY

PERFECTION PICTURES

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PRESENTS

THE FATAL MISTAKE

Featuring EVA NOVAK

The Herald has scored a beat again. The Van Dyke house was entered and someone tried to get the Rigo diamonds. These diamonds have been the source of much discussion since Prince Rigo's engagement to Helen Van Dyke, the heiress to the Van Dyke millions was announced.

In the office of the Star, Dave Jenkins the city editor nearly fires the whole force because the Herald has scored a beat on the burglary story. Just as Ellison Hartford, the Star's big reporter is given an assignment to get a decent story out of Rigo, Jack Darwin the Star's cub reporter comes in with a false alarm that some one has given him in regard to a story. Just then Dave Jenkins discovers that they have no photo of Helen Van Dyke in their files. He sends Jack out to find Ellison Hartford and have him get the photo. Jack begs for the chance to get the photo and is refused. He goes out greatly disappointed and determines that he has to make good somehow. His friend James Martin a veteran reporter tells him that no one has ever gotten a picture of Helen Van Dyke and that the guards about the house will thrash any reporter who tries. This only makes Jack more determined than ever and he hooks a camera off the back of an incoming reporter and starts off on his own.

Jack is next seen coming out of the dog-kennel in which he has hidden till nightfall to evade the armed guards that have paraded about the Van Dyke home since the attempted robbery. When the coast is clear he comes out of the kennel and climbing up over a trellis gets to the window of Helen Van Dyke's room and seeing a girl in the room dressed in a wedding gown, he takes a flashlight picture and rushes back to the Star office. They rush out a special edition and in the general celebration over the cub reporters scoop the phone rings and they are informed that Jack has taken a picture of the maid instead of the mistress.

It had so happened that Ethel Bennet had been acting the part of a maid and during the absence of her mistress she had tried on the gown and it was at this time that Jack had snapped her picture. Jack loses his job and is very much discouraged. He and James Martin room together and that evening they discuss the attempted gem robbery and his mistaken photograph. The girl looks familiar to them and they have an idea that she may have something to do with the Rigo Jewels. On an odd chance Jack hangs about a so-called employment agency in the hope of getting some clue to the mystery. This employment agency has sometimes been suspected of being a clearing for crooks and their activities. After a long wait his guess comes true. He bumps into Ethel Bennet and in telling her that he lost his job he learns that she lost her's too. She reminds him of a girl that he loved long ago in his home town. She is really the girl but

he does not recognize her, particularly in such a place. discussing the loss of his job she tips him off to the fact that Van Dykes will be with Prince Rigo at a reception in their house that evening and that if he is a good reporter he will be able to get not only the photograph but a story too. Jack departs and talks the matter over with Martin. Martin advises him to follow the tip, that there may be more in it than he thinks and while Jack is at the reception Martin will try to get a line on the girl.

Jack goes to the reception and tries vainly to get a photograph of Helen Van Dyke. The car drives up and after posing cameras the newspaper men discover that Ellison Hartford of the Star has received an invitation to the reception on the pretext that he will attempt no photographs. The police drive the photographers away. Jack looks about the grounds and thinks of the girl who told him to go to this reception. All at once he looks at the house and sees with a man on the porch. Coming slowly through some bushes he sees the lights of the house and out, suddenly a cry of thief and up and then a man rushes out and picks the girl up in his arms and runs away with her. Jack follows and fights but is overpowered by the man and an accomplice who has driven up in a car. The girl cries to him to follow

the men drive off in the car Jack gets another and follows them about the place coming up in the rear in a third car.

A wild chase follows with the police shooting at Jack thinking that he is the thief. He gives them the sign to follow the car in front in which the girl is struggling with the men. The car has a blowout and is stopped whereupon Jack catches up with the fleeing car and jumps to it from his own. With the car at breakneck speed he overcomes the man in the back of the car and then with the aid of Ethel Bennet he subdues the driver. Then the girl drives them back to the city. On the way Jack learns this is the girl he used to know in his home town that she is a special operator from the central police office who had been working in the confidence of the crooks in order to get them red-handed. Jack's confidence is restored. On his way up to the Star office he is chased out of the office by the editor who has just learned that the paper's best reporter who was at the reception had no idea of what had happened to the diamonds which Miss Van Dyke had been wearing when the lights went out. Finally the editor is convinced that Jack has the beat of years and he begs that Jack give him the story and will mean all their jobs. On the strength of this he bargains with the editor and gets his own job back and a raise for Martin then borrows three dollars from the editor and tells him that he will phone the story from the marriage license bureau in time for the early edition. Jack and Ethel drive off on what could be considered strictly their own business.

THE FATAL MISTAKE

Cast of Characters

WILLIAM FAIRBANKS

EVA NOVAK

WILFRED LUCAS

DOT FARLEY

BRUCE GORDON

HARRY MCCOY

PAUL WEIGEL

FRANK CLARK

Directed by SCOTT DUNLAP

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FRANK CLARK

Directed by SCOTT DUNLAP

DIRECT BY MAIL

LETTER

Dear Madam:

Your old friends and favorites Eva Novak and William Fairbanks are coming to the..... Theatre next..... for..... days. They will be in another one of the Perfection Pictures series. This time it is "The Fatal Mistake," or Scooping the Scoop on the Deadline. The story of an exciting series of incidents in the life of a reporter.

We feel sure that you will be well repaid for your having saved an evening to see this picture. Plenty of action and thrills and a story that is consistent throughout. Not just a stunt picture of a stunt actor.

Yours very truly,

.....Manager.

POST CARD

Dear Sir:

A few words are all that is necessary for you to put on your hat next..... Eva Novak and William Fairbanks will be at this theatre in "The Fatal Mistake," a story of a reporters triumph and the capture of a girl. Action enough to suit the whole family. Bring them all with you. The story is of interest to all.

Respectfully,

.....Manager.

COPY FOR CATCH LINES, ADS AND THROWAWAYS, ETC.

That editor didn't know a scoop from a shovel any

A cub reporter doing his best to get the photo that one else ever got, lost his job. He'd show that editor. could be know that it was the wrong girl? He would go and get the real story now and take it to another paper.

What did he care? He had lost his job and that had made him determined to show the other reporters up. had nothing more to lose and everything to gain if he w

An excellent story of action and thrills in which a has to drive over a cliff in order to capture a thief. In me an emergency he got the story that not a reporter had the least idea of. He could use it as a club over that editor to get his job back again or show him up.

A picture that will appeal to all of the audience, y and old. A consistently intersting story under excellent c tion making a sure success for anyone seeing it. A gu teed evening's entertainment.

How many young reporters have lived on the tho that some day they would get a scoop on the story that w knock newspaper row for a line of brick ash cans and him a star reporter over night. . Every newspaper man k what it is. This young man thought he had a story and he lost his job for getting the wrong picture. Later he g story and a real live girl to boot.

The story of a scoop that was not a scoop and then one after all.

He went for a photo and got.....a couple of c and the biggest news story of years.

DIRECT BY MAIL

LETTER

COPY FOR CATCH LINES, ADS AND THROWAWAYS, ETC.

That editor didn't know a scoop from a shovel anyway.

A cub reporter doing his best to get the photo that no one else ever got, lost his job. He'd show that editor. How could he know that it was the wrong girl? He would go out and get the real story now and take it to another paper.

What did he care? He had lost his job and that story had made him determined to show the other reporters up. He had nothing more to lose and everything to gain if he won.

An excellent story of action and thrills in which a man has to drive over a cliff in order to capture a thief. In meeting an emergency he got the story that not a reporter had even the least idea of. He could use it as a club over that wise editor to get his job back again or show him up.

A picture that will appeal to all of the audience, young and old. A consistently interesting story under excellent direction making a sure success for anyone seeing it. A guaranteed evening's entertainment.

How many young reporters have lived on the thought that some day they would get a scoop on the story that would knock newspaper row for a line of brick ash cans and make him a star reporter over night. Every newspaper man knows what it is. This young man thought he had a story and then he lost his job for getting the wrong picture. Later he got the story and a real live girl to boot.

The story of a scoop that was not a scoop and then was one after all.

He went for a photo and got a couple of crooks and the biggest news story of years.

LETTER

Yours very truly,

Manager.

POST CARD

Now words are all that is necessary for you to put on next Eva Novak and William Fairbanks this theatre in "The Fatal Mistake," a story of a triumph and the capture of a girl. Action enough whole family. Bring them all with you. The story best to all.

Respectfully,

Manager.

DEC 13 1924

Washington, D. C.

Register of Copyrights
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I herewith respectfully request the return of the following
named motion picture films deposited by me for registration of
copyright in the name of Perfection Pictures, Inc.

The Fatal Mistake - 5 reels

Respectfully,

FULTON BRYLAWSKI

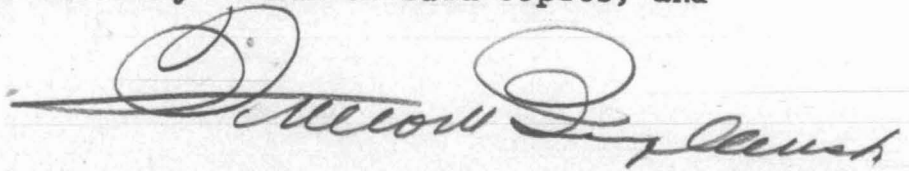
The Perfection Pictures, Inc.
hereby acknowledges the receipt of two copies each of the
motion picture films deposited and registered in the Copyright
Office as follows:

<u>Title</u>	<u>Date of Deposit</u>	<u>Registration</u>
The Fatal Mistake	12-13-24	©CLL 20004

The return of the above copies was requested by the said
Company, by its agent and attorney on the 13th day of
Dec. 1924 and the said Fulton Brylawski for himself, and as
the duly authorized agent and attorney of the said Company,
hereby acknowledges the delivery to him of said copies, and
the receipt thereof.

Delivered in person

DEC 17 1924



This document is from the Library of Congress
“Motion Picture Copyright Descriptions Collection,
1912-1977”

Collections Summary:

The Motion Picture Copyright Descriptions Collection, Class L and Class M, consists of forms, abstracts, plot summaries, dialogue and continuity scripts, press kits, publicity and other material, submitted for the purpose of enabling descriptive cataloging for motion picture photoplays registered with the United States Copyright Office under Class L and Class M from 1912-1977.

Class L Finding Aid:

<https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mbrsmi/eadmbrsmi.mi020004>

Class M Finding Aid:

<https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mbrsmi/eadmbrsmi.mi021002>



National Audio-Visual Conservation Center
The Library of Congress